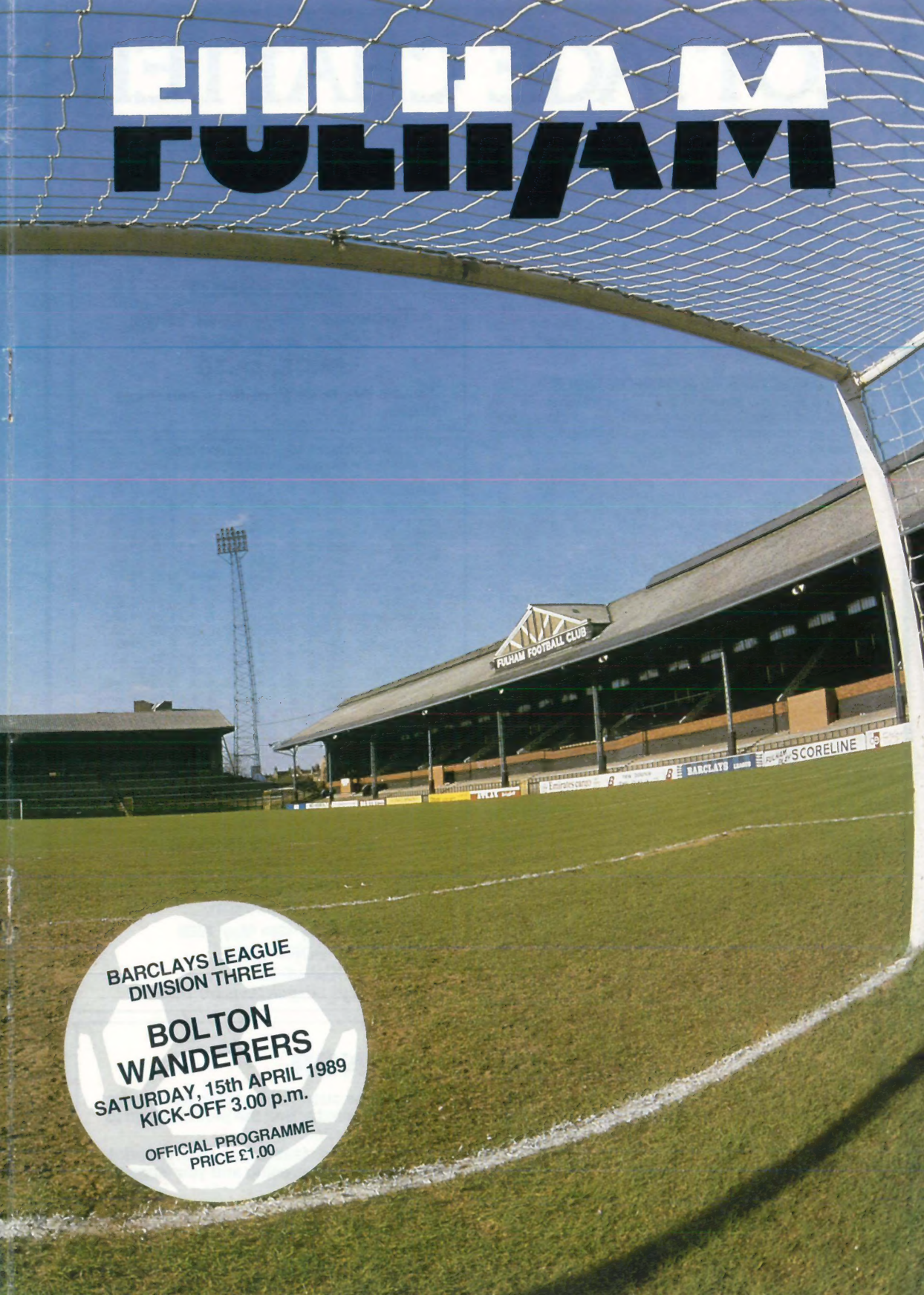


# FULHAM



BARCLAYS LEAGUE  
DIVISION THREE

**BOLTON  
WANDERERS**

SATURDAY, 15th APRIL 1989  
KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME  
PRICE £1.00



# COTTAGE CHATTER

## AWAY AT BRISTOL AND READING

We have been advised by Bristol Rovers that there are no stand tickets available for our match there on May 6th. Admission will therefore be to the terraces only, price £3.50 adults and £1.80 children and senior citizens. Similarly for our visit to Reading on Monday 1st May, there are no seat tickets available to away supporters. The uncovered terrace is available to Fulham Members only, who will be required to show their membership card.

## PROGRAMME COLLECTORS CLUB

Please don't forget that Reg Weller and Dave Pearce will be holding the final get-together of the season before the Sheffield United game on April 29. It will be held in the Benfica Bar, starting at 1.30 p.m.

## WELCOME TO JOSEPH DANIELS

Today we welcome seven-year-old Joseph Daniels to The Cottage. We know this is your second visit of the season, Joseph, so even though your father is a Wanderers supporter, we now regard you as a Fulham fan.



Our two injured players, Gary Barnett and Shaun Gore, can just about manage a smile as they recover from serious injuries.

## AWAY TRAVEL v WIGAN

**Saturday, 22nd April 1989**

Depart Ground: 9.30am

**Price: £11.00**

## v ALDERSHOT

**Tuesday, 25th April 1989**

Depart Ground: 4.30pm

**PRICE: £4.50**

*Tickets available from the Commercial Office.*

## BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

(up to and including Tuesday 11th April 1989)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	P	Ts
Wolves	38	16	2	1	53	14	7	7	5	29	25	78	
Port Vale	38	13	3	3	42	18	7	7	5	27	24	70	
Sheff Utd.	37	14	2	3	48	16	7	4	7	29	26	69	
Bristol R.	38	9	8	3	32	19	9	5	4	29	22	67	
<b>Fulham</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>63</b>	
Preston	40	12	6	2	48	27	4	6	10	21	28	60	
Chester City	38	10	6	3	34	16	6	5	8	23	36	59	
Swansea City	39	11	7	2	31	18	4	5	10	15	24	57	
Brentford	37	12	3	4	31	18	3	7	8	23	29	55	
Huddersfield	38	9	6	4	30	21	7	1	11	25	34	55	
Bury	40	10	5	5	26	22	5	5	10	27	41	55	
Notts County	39	8	7	5	27	21	6	5	8	24	26	54	
Reading	39	10	6	3	35	21	4	5	11	25	37	53	
Bristol City	39	8	3	8	23	21	6	6	8	18	27	51	
Mansfield	39	9	6	5	28	20	3	8	8	14	25	50	
Bolton	38	9	6	3	32	18	3	6	11	12	28	48	
Cardiff City	37	8	7	2	26	14	4	5	11	13	35	48	
Northampton	40	10	2	8	35	29	4	3	13	20	37	47	
Southend Utd	38	8	7	4	28	23	3	5	11	20	41	45	
Chesterfield	40	9	5	6	31	27	3	2	15	12	47	43	
Blackpool	38	7	6	6	26	23	2	6	11	16	27	39	
Wigan Athletic	36	7	3	8	22	19	2	7	9	19	28	37	
Aldershot	39	6	5	8	26	25	1	7	12	18	43	33	
Gillingham	40	5	3	12	18	28	4	1	15	19	42	31	

## NEXT HOME MATCHES

**Saturday 29th April 1989**

**SHEFFIELD UNITED**

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

**Saturday 13th May 1989**

**PORT VALE**

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

*Barclays League Division Three*

## FULHAM F.C. DINNER

We are going to hold a Club Dinner in the summer which will be attended by some well known personalities and past and present players. The cost will be reasonable and the profits will go to the Club. With a bit of luck it will turn out to be an important celebration.

Keep an eye on this part of the programme for the future announcements about the date, the price and the personalities. Everyone will be welcome to what will be a fun evening and your support will help to swell Club funds.



# From the Boardroom



So much has happened since I last wrote an editorial back in December, that there is no point in going over this old ground again. Instead, today on what is effectively the second anniversary of the new board taking over, I want to look forward to the issues which face us in the coming months.

Let me say at the outset that I am delighted we still have everything to play for as the season enters the home straight. All the clubs challenging for a promotion or play-off position have been recording some odd results. The lack of consistency amongst the leading seven or eight teams seems to indicate that we may have to wait until the final match before we know our fate. The Football League's computer could not have appreciated what it was doing last summer when it gave us Sheffield United and Port Vale as our final home fixtures and a trip to Bristol Rovers for our last away game.

In getting as far as we have this season, I would like to say how highly I regard the contribution Ray personally has made. This is not the 'vote of confidence' that usually spells the end for managers. This is a very genuine acknowledgement of Ray's commitment to this club and that of his family. I am sure many managers are quite cynical in their attitude to their job but in Ray we have someone who cares greatly about Fulham and does not spare himself in trying to get us promotion. We can all pick the winning team at 5.00 o'clock

on a Saturday, and when we have lost, the manager is the obvious target. I know how a loss affects me, but I always try to remember how much more it must hurt him. I can't claim to have a professional's view of football, but I do know the dedication I expect of a manager in business and in this respect Ray more than qualifies.

The short-term considerations of promotion will be occupying all our thoughts in the coming weeks, but whether we make promotion or not, the issue that brought the current board together is slowly working its way back to the top of the agenda. The question of a development at the Cottage has been simmering away for the last few months, but over the next few, it will be coming to the boil. As things stand nothing has changed. The planning applications submitted by SB Properties were rejected by the Fulham and Hammersmith Council, who subsequently placed a compulsory purchase order on our ground.

Before this can be enforced, there has to be a public inquiry by the Department of the Environment in Whitehall. Our case is unique and it would be wrong to regard the decision on Stamford Bridge as a precedent in a legal sense. I was, nevertheless, encouraged by the general tone of the Inspector's report on the Chelsea case, and feel that many of the arguments used to support their application could be applied to ourselves. As the months go by, I get progressively more confident about our chances of succeeding in our ambitions both on and off the field. In this period before the inquiry, we are continuing to work closely with the Council and doing our homework behind the scenes. We will be taking nothing for granted, and shall have to prepare ourselves as thoroughly as the players will prepare for the play-offs.

One thing I can say for certain is that we shall be playing here at the Cottage next season. In our two remaining home programmes, we will be running advertisements for 1989-90 season tickets. Rest assured that these will be for the Cottage, and I sincerely hope they will be for Second Division fixtures. The next few weeks will be the most nerve-racking since I became involved, but I wouldn't have it any other way. It shows how far we've come in two years, but this is just for starters.

*Bill Muddyman*

BILL MUDDYMAN



## FULHAM FOOTBALL CLUB (1987) LIMITED

*Founded: 1879*

Craven Cottage Stevenage Road London SW6 6HH

Telephone: 736 6561 (Commercial Dept) 736 4634 (Information) 736 7035

*Chairman: Jimmy Hill*

*Vice Chairman: Bill Muddyman Directors: Cyril Swain, David Gardner, Andy Muddyman*

*Club Secretary: Yvonne Haines General Manager: Stuart Dalrymple*

*Team Manager: Ray Lewington*

*Assistant Manager: Jack Burkett Club Coach: Terry Bullivant*

### *Honours:*

Champions League Division II 1948-49 League Division III (South) 1931-32

Promotion Winners: From Division II 1958-59 From Division III 1970-71 and 1981-82

F.A. Cup Finalists: 1975

F.A. Cup Semi-Finalists: 1908, 1936, 1958, 1962



# As I See It

Last week I wrote about the defenders who have featured in first-team games this season. Today it's the turn of the midfield players and the forwards. In the centre midfield positions it has been a question of perm any two from three, with Robert Wilson, Peter Scott and Justin Skinner being the players involved. Robert comes in for a fair amount of criticism from time to time, much of which is unjustified. His experience has proved invaluable. He is capable of showing just the right amount of aggression, but he has found it harder in the Third Division and his style of play is better suited to the higher reaches of the League.

Peter Scott is potentially an excellent player and promotion would almost certainly help his game too. It has taken Peter a little time, but he is now a much more responsible player than he was. He has vision and he is a very good passer of the ball and, provided he stays free of serious injury, he could well become a First Division player — hopefully with Fulham. Justin Skinner also has great potential and is one of the best players we have produced in a long time. As far as I am concerned he has now served his apprenticeship, but he must not rest on his laurels. He must work on his stamina and learn to relax a bit more on the ball, and he should widen his play rather than always playing the ball straight ahead.

The wide midfield positions have also been occupied by three players this season, although I have been forced to use John Marshall as a defender in quite a few games. John never complains. He is an excellent club man and will play anywhere even though his best position is wide right, as he has shown in recent performances. Another player who always gives a hundred per cent is Gary Barnett. I have a lot of respect for Gary, who battled well for us earlier in the season when things were going badly. He has not scored too many goals this season but his toe was troubling him for quite a while before he underwent his operation. The third wide player is of course Clive Walker. Clive was criticised by some at the recent Forum for not trying hard enough, while others present thought he was wonderful. I suppose that's the sort of player he is — you either love him or hate him, but on his day he is one of the best left-sided players in the country. He may not be the best tackler in the business but he is brave and he's an instinctive player. He also brought valuable experience with him. I love him — sometimes!

And so to the forwards. Michael Cole lacks aggression in the box and needs a more positive approach. Out-



side the box he is as good a player as you'll see anywhere, and he is capable of brilliant crosses like the one he put across in the Brentford game. He has been compared to Dean Coney and there are some similarities, but he is more mobile than Dixie and could become a much better player. Mickey is a hard worker and we'll keep on at him until he starts knocking them in on a regular basis.

Andy Sayer set the place alight at first. He is a natural goal scorer but he lost his way a bit in mid-season. He was not happy about being dropped but has accepted that he has to fight for a place, and that's what he is now doing. Andy has youth on his side and there is plenty of football in him. There's a good bit of football in Colin Gordon too, as those of you who travelled to Preston will have seen. Colin was troubled by a back injury for some time, and before that he found he needed time to adjust to our style of play. He's doing it now though, and I have high hopes for him.

That's it then. I don't think there's anyone else. Hold on though; there's a Welsh bloke looking over my shoulder trying to find his name mentioned! Our Ivor had a lot of injuries last year and as a result he lost some of his pace. But he never lost his scoring ability and he is now as sharp as ever. I think he is probably a better team player than ever before. There really is only one Gordon Davies.

*Raylan Rogers*



# FIRST TEAM FILE

## PRESTON NORTH END 1 FULHAM 4

*Barclays League Division 3*

After the traumas of the Gillingham match, we needed a result at Deepdale to keep on course for the play-offs but a 4-1 win was beyond our wildest dreams. Preston had not been beaten in a League match on their plastic pitch since Port Vale took the points in the opening game of the season. We were also hit by the late withdrawal of both full-backs. Richard Langley aggravated a pelvic strain in training on Friday and Glen Thomas developed a virus infection which caused his neck glands to swell and gave him a high temperature. Ronnie Mauge came in for Richard with John Marshall switching to the unaccustomed position of left back. These two played magnificently and with Colin Gordon getting 'Man of the Match' notices with several clever flick-ons and his general performance including a late goal, triumph could definitely be said to have come from adversity. At one stage Colin was a doubtful starter and our manager was contemplating a seat on the subs' bench but fortunately Colin passed a late fitness test.

Despite a half hour practice session to acclimatise to the surface, we had the worst possible start when Jeff Eckhardt slipped, allowing Warren Joyce the space to cross for Tony Philliskirk to sidefoot past Jim Stannard after only three minutes. Preston could have been three up within a quarter of an hour, Tony Ellis shooting wide after a gap appeared in the middle of our defence and Alex Jones running onto a free kick only to turn the ball wide. Our defenders gradually gained confidence on the alien surface, which, to be fair, played much better than its forebears at Q.P.R. and Luton with no freakish bounces. Colin Gordon made our first real chance by beating his man and finding Justin whose powerful twenty yarder hit the crossbar and flew over. Our equaliser came after 28 minutes when Marshall won the ball in a tackle, laid it forward to Gordon who flicked it perfectly between two defenders for Davies to chase and slide perfectly into the corner past the helpless Roy Tunks. This was high class finishing and Ivor soon proved again that he is back to his lethal best. A Walker corner was knocked on by Colin Gordon, Eckhardt returned it into the danger area and Davies turned and slipped it under Tunks' body. Colin had a great chance when Walker and Davies pressurised Jones into a suicidal pass across his own goal but Tunks came to the rescue. Just before half-time Stannard had to be quick off his line to beat Philliskirk to a ball outside the box but he had to slide rather than kick the ball away as any contact with his shin could have aggravated his injury. The ball rebounded to Joyce and much to our relief he shot over the untenant goal.

Jim made a good save from Philliskirk as Preston applied a three minute spell of unrelieved pressure but we defended well and eventually Ellis whacked a chance yards over the bar. By this time, we were stringing passes together as if we always played on this surface and a hard low cross from Skinner only just eluded Walker. After 88 minutes, Justin broke from defence, found Walker with a pass inside the full-back and Clive shot across Tunks and inside the far post. In the third minute of injury time, Davies turned his man, found Walker who cut in and his shot ricocheted off a defender to Colin Gordon who rolled it deftly into the corner of the net.

This was probably our best away performance of the season even if, statistically, our 5-1 success at Ashton Gate was better. **PRESTON NORTH END:** Tunks, Williams, Jones, Atkins, Al-lardyce, Mooney (Bogie 45), Joyce, Swann (Harper 66), Wrightson, Ellis, Philliskirk.

**FULHAM:** Stannard, Mauge, Eckhardt, Rougvie, Marshall, Cole, Scott, Skinner, Walker, Gordon, Davies.

### LEW'S VIEW

*It's probably fair to say you didn't expect this sort of scoreline. With Richard Langley injured, Jim Stannard unable to kick, and Glen Thomas taken ill the night before the game, it's probably fair to say I didn't expect it either! In the event Ronnie Mauge proved an excellent replacement for Richard, John*

*Marshall as ever re-adapted to a full-back position, and Colin Gordon did extremely well up front. Preston scored while we were still getting used to the plastic, but our first goal came after an excellent build-up with Ivor The Engine steaming away on a twenty yard run. The home side put us under a bit of pressure early in the second half but we coped well and in the end they lost heart and became very ragged. The goals were all good ones and when the fourth came out of the blue in injury time it was just reward for Colin, who had used his height to great effect throughout the match.*

## CHESTER 7 FULHAM 0

*Barclays League Division 3*

Chester had gone eight matches without a victory whereas Fulham had won six of the preceding seven. Who could possibly have predicted a scoreline which would equal Fulham's record defeat outside the First Division.

Chester manager, Harry McNally told us after the game that when he woke up in the morning and could tell that the pitch was bound to be very heavy, he was determined that the game would go ahead. He had Chester's 14 trainees working on it all day to make certain it would pass the referee's inspection. His knowledge of our liking for knocking the ball around had been reinforced by reports of the Preston match. The tactics of playing three central defenders to stifle the threat of Colin Gordon and Gordon Davies and pushing both full backs up to mark our wide midfield players tightly worked perfectly. The pace and trickery of Milton Graham and the lethal finishing of Carl Dale made this, in the words of the local press "a vintage display, the most entertaining seen at Sealand Road for many years. The only slice of luck they needed came just after halftime when they were awarded a penalty which the honest Mr. McNally described as "fortuitous". After that was converted, our discipline went completely and Chester could easily have hit double figures.

Right from the start, the Seals dominated the match. They seemed to have more appetite than Fulham and won nearly all the 50/50 balls. As early as the fourth minute, a cross from the dangerous Colin Woodthorpe gave Graham Abel a great chance from six yards but he shot straight at Jim Stannard, who saved with his feet. Our keeper, who was obviously a long way from being 100% fit, was severely tested, going down to gather a centre from Graham and just beating Woodthorpe to a clever pass by Eamonn O'Keefe. Fulham's first chance came when Peter Scott broke out of defence, rode two tackles and relayed to Ivor who put Colin Gordon in. Colin's shot beat Billy Stewart but went just the wrong side of the post. It was an uncharacteristically poor pass by Doug Rougvie from the left side of the box to Jim with Graham in between which resulted in Chester's crucial opening goal. Ronnie Mauge performed a minor miracle by kicking Graham's cross away for a corner a split second before Dale could reach it but the resulting flag kick from O'Keefe found defender Joe Hinnigan who rose higher than anyone else to plant a firm header into the net. With three minutes of the first half left, Graham's pace took him right round the outside of our defence and Woodthorpe swept his centre in from eight yards. It was from our first corner that O'Keefe headed off the line from Rougvie's header and Doug belted the rebound over the bar. Chester were well worth their 2-0 interval lead.

Our lingering hopes of a revival were quickly extinguished when Rougvie was harshly adjudged to have tripped Carl Dale in the box when it seemed he had stumbled without making contact with a Fulham player. O'Keefe made no mistake with the spot kick and a minute later, with our defence in disarray, Daled raced in from the left and chipped over the diving Stannard. Ray then brought off Justin Skinner, who had been injured in the first half and Colin Gordon, who had also had a knock but it made no difference. Jeff Eckhardt had a header saved in a rare Fulham raid but all the action was around our goalmouth. With O'Keefe and Jakub running the midfield,

*continued on page 16.*



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# AROUND THE THIRD

## CHAMPIONSHIP BATTLE

The battle at the top of the table has picked up pace in recent weeks. Whilst Wolves are still clear favourites for the Championship their invincibility has been dented recently. After a four game run without victory the Wolves returned to winning ways last Saturday, defeating Brentford 2-0 at Molyneux with goals from Streete and Bull.

Fortunately for Wolves, both their closest challengers Port Vale and Sheffield United have lost points over the last few weeks thus maintaining the lead of Wolves at a healthy 8 points. Last Saturday a late goal by Walker gave Vale a narrow 2-1 victory over bottom side Gillingham. Sheffield United looked more impressive in their 3-1 home victory over Preston where Deane, Agana and Duffield were on target.

## PRESTON FALL AWAY

Preston's defeat at Brammall Lane means that the Lancashire side have won only 1 of their last 7 league games. Fulham's victory at Deepdale was the first defeat Preston had suffered at home since the opening day of the season. This was followed by a tough 2-2 draw at home to Aldershot before the visit to Sheffield.

## ON FORM ROVERS

Bristol Rovers have moved into a strong position to challenge for promotion. Rovers have remained unbeaten in their last nine league games, winning six of them. The last two games have been crucial six-pointers. A 2-2 draw was fought out against Port Vale in the west country before Swansea were defeated 2-1 in Wales last Saturday. Regular recent scorers Penrice and Bailey got the important goals.

## ELSEWHERE

Bolton have also hit good form recently being undefeated in their last 8 league games. Last Saturday Bolton shared the spoils in a 6 goal thriller at Notts County. By contrast, Bury's promotion challenge has dwindled. Last Saturday's 4-1 defeat at Aldershot was their seventh defeat in 8

games. This poor run has coincided with the departure of Martin Dobson from Gigg Lane.

## PROMOTION CHALLENGERS

Huddersfield and Chester still remain with a chance of promotion. Goals by Maskell and McInerney gave the Terriers a 2-0 victory at home to Mansfield, following a 2-1 defeat at Reading. Chester, meanwhile, followed up their emphatic victory over us with a 2-0 win at Northampton where Lightfoot and O'Keefe got the goals. Although Chester have lost only 1 of their last 8 games, 5 of these have been drawn so the recent victories have put Chester firmly back into the promotion picture.

## LIFE AT THE BOTTOM

At the bottom of the table Aldershot and Gillingham still look favourites to drop into the fourth division. With games running out, both appear too far adrift of the safety spot. Aldershot, however, are putting up a good fight. Last Saturday they followed up their 2-2 draw at Preston with an impressive 4-1 home victory over Bury. Two goals by Puckett one from McDonald and top scorer Claridge sealed the Shots victory.

Wigan have a lot of games in hand and may yet pull clear of relegation. A single goal by Ramage was sufficient to give them victory over Cardiff last week at Springfield Park in a key relegation battle. Of the other sides threatened with relegation, Blackpool's poor run continues whilst Southend have picked up some useful victories.

Last Saturday Blackpool became the latest victims of Reading's impressive form. The Tangerines lost their fourth successive league game, beaten 2-4 at Bloomfield Road. Reading's victory was sealed by goals from Elsey, Gilkes, Payne and Beavon and was their fifth successive league victory.

Southend, meanwhile, managed to keep clear of the bottom four with victories at home to Blackpool (2-1) and a 2-0 win at Ashton Gate last week, where Ling's double beat Bristol City.

## DIVISION THREE CLUBS RECORDS, 1988-89

	Attendances Biggest	Average	Biggest Win	Defeat	Leading Scorers
ALDERSHOT	4,960 v Reading	2,489	5-1 v Northampton	0-6	Puckett 10, Claridge 8
BLACKPOOL	8,951 v Preston	4,394	4-0 v Aldershot	1-4	Garner 8, Cunningham 7
BOLTON	10,281 v Preston	5,613	5-0 v Chesterfield	0-4	Thompson 8, Morgan 8
BRENTFORD	10,851 v Fulham	5,716	5-1 v Huddersfield	3-5	Cadette 12, Sinton 9
BRISTOL CITY	23,191 v Bristol R.	8,264	4-0 v Chesterfield	1-5	Walsh 10, McGarvey 9
BRISTOL ROVERS	8,776 v Bristol City	5,127	5-1 v Huddersfield	1-3	Penrice 18
BURY	6,977 v Preston	3,393	4-2 v Bolton	0-6	Robinson 19, Elliott 10
CARDIFF CITY	10,675 v Swansea	4,787	3-0 v 2 sides	1-6	Gilligan 13, Bartlett 9
CHESTER CITY	8,236 v Wolves	3,040	7-0 v Fulham	1-6	Dale 19, Johnson 10
CHESTERFIELD	5,539 v Huddersfield	3,256	4-1 v Fulham	0-6	Waller 12, Bloomer 9
FULHAM	8,120 v Brentford	4,729	5-1 v Bristol City	0-7	Davies 9, Sayer 8
GILLINGHAM	5,871 v Fulham	3,845	2-0 v Aldershot	1-6	Lovell 12, Peacock 6
HUDDERSFIELD	10,400 v Sheff. Utd.	5,762	6-0 v Bury	1-5	Maskell 23
MANSFIELD TOWN	9,205 v Wolves	4,084	4-0 v Southend	2-6	Cassells 12, Charles 7
NORTHAMPTON	6,494 v Wolves	3,893	6-0 v Aldershot	1-5	Adcock 13, Culpin 12
NOTTS COUNTY	11,590 v Sheff. Utd.	5,783	4-0 v Chesterfield	1-4	Barnes 7, Lund, McParland 5
PORT VALE	16,362 v Wolves	6,791	6-1 v Cardiff	1-3	Beckford 18, Fletcher 14, Earle 11
PRESTON	12,104 v Bolton	7,348	6-0 v Chesterfield	0-6	Ellis 16, Patterson 13
READING	9,353 v Wolves	5,332	4-0 v Southend	0-3	Senior 15, Gilkes 7, Knight 7
SHEFFIELD UNITED	18,787 v Port Vale	11,755	6-1 v Chester	1-3	Deane 21, Agana 16
SOUTHEND UNITED	5,924 v Wolves	3,523	4-2 v Chester	0-4	Crown 20
SWANSEA CITY	9,201 v Cardiff	5,087	3-1 v Mansfield	2-5	Melville 9, James 7
WIGAN ATHLETIC	4,141 v Blackpool	3,110	3-0 v 3 sides	1-3	Entwistle 5
WOLVES	21,090 v Chester	13,583	6-0 v Preston	1-3	Bull 32, Mutch 18





# DATELINE



## 15th APRIL

### 1896 FRANKIE GOES TO FULHAM

One of Fulham's greatest servants, was born in Edmonton on this day. He joined Fulham in 1915 after experience with junior clubs Alston Rangers and Vicar of Wakefield F.C. Penn made his first team debut in April 1917 against Clapton Orient in a war-time London Combination match. He soon impressed and played in an England trial match for the South versus the North at Stamford Bridge in 1919. Frank was more or less Fulham's first choice on the left wing until 1931. He had become a qualified engineer and a mechanic during the war. He never used these talents in later life, for when he hung up his boots in 1934 after 460 League and Cup games and 60 goals for the Cottagers, he joined the training staff. He finally left the Cottage on his retirement in 1965 after 50 years at the club. Whilst a player, Penn qualified as a physiotherapist. He was honoured in 1947 when he was chosen to be the England team trainer. Sadly his retirement was short as he died in the Royal Free Hospital, St. Pancras on 19th December 1966. Frank had worked for 13 different managers during his time at Fulham.



Frank Penn

### 1933 KNOCK ON WOOD

Albert Wood, making a rare first team appearance, scores twice as Fulham beat Charlton Athletic 3-1 at The Cottage. Inside five minutes Fulham take the lead with a great goal, Wood shooting home from the edge of the area with a shot the keeper never sees. A wonderful piece of work by Johnny Arnold almost brings the second goal after 15 minutes. He beats two defenders and hits a terrific shot towards the far corner of the net but the keeper brings off a great save. The second goal is not far away. Jack Finch's flag kick is beautifully placed for Bonzo Newton to touch to former Sunderland forward Wood who scores his second from three yards out. Wood nearly completes his hat-trick with a fine shot which grazes the upright. An amazing piece of work by Arnold brings the third. He runs half the length of the pitch to set up Newton for a simple goal. After a foul by Mike Keeping in the box, Pearce converts the penalty for a late consolation goal.

### 1949 HATTERS ARE CRUCIFIED

Fulham continue their winning ways and their march towards the Second Division Championship, with a fine 4-1 victory over Luton Town at The Cottage. Over the Easter period the Cottagers win all their games starting with this victory on Good Friday. Fulham's forwards are far too sharp for the Hatters' defence. Arthur Rowley leads his line with great dash and scores two of the goals. He is ably backed up by Bedford Jezzard and Arthur Stevens, who gives Fulham the lead. Bob Thomas completes the scoring near the end. Fulham are constantly dangerous and Luton keeper, George Duke, keeps the score down with a number of fine saves. Luton's consolation goal is scored by Syd Owen in the dying minutes. Bobby Brennan, who becomes Fulham's record signing in 1950, is in the Luton line-up and for Fulham, Ron Lewin has a rare outing in place of the injured Harry Freeman.

### 1950 FAGAN SAVES HIS BOYS

With two minutes to go, Fulham look like being the first London team to beat Liverpool this season. Without stars Cyril Sidlow, Albert Stubbins and Billy Liddell, the home team did well to prevent more Fulham goals before hitting a lucky equaliser. Fulham's goal must rank as one of the best at Anfield. Arthur Stevens, on the wing, hits a ball good and hard along the ground. It flashes past the surprised Ray Minshull into the goal. Jezzard, Stevens, Taylor and Quesada all go close with long range efforts. Willie Fagan scores the Reds equaliser turning Cyril Done's lob into the net from a wide angle.

### 1968 UNITED AT THEIR BEST

Fulham are well beaten by Manchester United at Old Trafford as they slowly sank towards relegation from the First Division. United miss a hatful of chances and brave Ian Seymour, in Fulham's goal, saves them from greater defeat with a number of fine saves. United's first goal comes after eleven minutes. Bobby Charlton picks up the ball in his own half and starts a long sinuous gallop in which no Fulham defender challenges him. He covers 80 yards before hitting the ball in. The second is an angled shot by George Best in the 29th minute. He is well down towards the goal line when he drives the ball just under Fulham's bar. John Aston heads the third from a neat chip by Best in the 85th minute. Fulham have their chances as well. Allan Clarke has his first effort foiled by a fine save by Rimmer, then he strikes a post and finally shoots wide in a good position.

### 1970 SIX MINUTES EFFORT WINS IT

Fulham could just about scrape a 2-1 victory over Halifax Town, a team they had beaten 8-0 at The Shay, earlier in the season. Halifax show the early spirit when Shawcross shoots narrowly wide and Lawther heads just over the bar. Vic Halom hits back but his efforts are blocked by the Halifax defence. A bad mistake by Malcolm Webster leads to the opening goal by the visitors. He mis-punches across to McCarthy's waiting head and he scores with the simplest of chances after 17 minutes. After the interval Fulham hit back with Jim Conway and Les Barrett proving more lively on the wing. Steve Earle misses an open goal from Conway's cross. However a minute later Conway equalises out of frustration. He hits a left foot shot from 30 yards which crashes into the net. Fulham's real effort for the match ended six minutes later when Vic Halom volleys in a terrific volley from the edge of the box for the winning goal.

### 1978 EVANS SHATTERS DULL HULL

A paltry crowd of only 3,961 see Fulham win one nil at Boothferry Park thanks to a 25 yarder from Ray Evans. The goal comes after 40 minutes when John Mitchell pushes a reverse ball to skipper Evans outside the Hull penalty area and he rifles in a 25 yard shot low into the net with keeper Eddie Blackburn totally helpless. Former Fulham defender Dave Roberts should have equalised for the Tigers a few minutes later but he totally mis-kicks when right in front of goal. Stewart hits the cross bar for City after a scramble in the Fulham goalmouth. Gerry Peyton then has to make a fine save from a good shot by Billy Bremner. Former Fulham striker Alan Warboys misses an open goal with a header near the end, so The Cottagers are the victors of a fairly dull game.



Ray Evans



# Do You Remember?

## JOHN TREVOR SMITH

Another whisper on the grapevine via Tosh and I find myself in the winding lanes of rural Bracknell, adjacent to the Admiral Cunningham pub — a magnificent hostelry from the outside — a 'Traveller Special' I thought to myself.

A few minutes on and I'm ensconced in Trevor's parlour or 'J. Trevor' to be precise. It was that fact in the local phone directory which had proved invaluable in tracing him. 'I'm a John Smith really', he said, 'but we had three Johns in the family at the time. Now we've got three Trevors'. For 79, he was looking absolutely brilliant and as my Dad would have said — 'ticking over like a Rolls'. The History describes him as a tenacious player' and I remarked on this straight away.

He grinned. 'Well I've had three hip replacements now, so I suppose I need a bit of tenacity for that', he said. 'Mainly due to football I suppose, although one was a direct fall downstairs. My wife has heart problems from time to time but we got our Golden Wedding in last year on the 1st January and we both keep very involved with Age Concern as we reckon we've been very fortunate to get this far'. I asked him who his favourite Manager was. They'd been chopping and changing all over the shop at the time. 'Lillian, my wife', he said. 'She's managed me all the way through. You watch, she'll be in in a minute'. Sure enough, on cue, a trim figure popped her head round the corner and started enquiring about Johnny Arnold, Chappie D'Amato and Ambrose Buckley's Overcoat!!! — fifty years on.

Trevor is the seventh member of the 1935/6 playing staff I'd been lucky enough to locate in the past few years and the 35/6 Cup run has really become alive. He described his partnership with Bert Worsley on the right wing outside him in the semi-final against Sheffield United. 'Honestly, we should have done them and played the Arsenal in the final. Bert and I had a great time on the right and Johnny Arnold had one of his field days on the left. After hammering Derby with all their internationals in the previous round we thought it would be Wembley at last but 'twas not to be. Still, at least I trod the hallowed turf during the War when I turned out for the RAF and we beat the Met. Police 2-1. I volunteered for the RAF right at the start and ended up

playing all over Italy, entertaining the troops, doing our 'Vera Lynn' bit!

'Funnily enough we're featuring another old player from around your era in the Chesterfield programme soon Trev', I said, 'Bobby Dennison'. He was flabbergasted. His Durham accent became more pronounced (Annfield Plain). 'Eee, Mon! — Lilly he's found Bobby!' he shouted, forgetting he'd told me to keep it down because his younger son Graham — a chief Flight Engineer with B.A. was asleep upstairs. 'He was a groom at our wedding' he explained. Jimmy Tompkins was the other one and Jim Hindson was our best man. Give us his address and phone number I'll be in touch.' Lily was in again. 'We got married on a Saturday morning' she said 'On New Years Day. Trev played at home against Plymouth in the afternoon and they lost 3-2 and as they came off the supporters were shouting at me 'You should have buried him not married him'.

He laughed. 'We've had a great life' he said. 'Our eldest boy, Trevor John, captained Hayes in the Athenian League and had two trials for the England Amateur International side and I kept involved with football at Wingate as Coach and Secretary right up to 1973 and my wife did all the typing! Graham could have been the best footballer of all of us but preferred boxing. It's a long while since five or six of the old team helped Johnny Arnold lift an Austin 7 bodily into one of the front gardens in Finlay Street. We never did like that forward — he was cocky!

Get me an extra programme for the grandchildren', he said as he saw me to the car. I drove off vowing to read the 'Match to Remember' again in the History — the 6th round v Derby — a 3-0 win — Trev — 'the Mighty Atom' getting the third. Just for once I wished I was five years older. I might have seen them. The attendance would have been 37,152!

LILLIEWHITE

### FULHAM RECORD

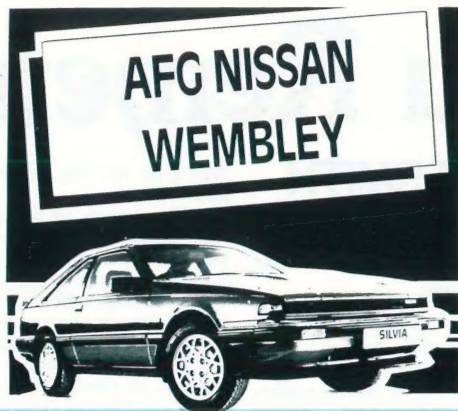
1935-1938

	Appearances	Goals
Football League	93	19
F.A. Cup	7	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21</b>



A previously unpublished photograph we couldn't resist using. It shows John Trevor Smith (third from right) with, from the left, Jim Hammond, Bert Worsley, Bruce Clarke and Bob Dennison. It was taken at Worthing in 1937.





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# In Reserve

## FULHAM 0 LUTON TOWN 6

### Ovenden Papers Football Combination

Our losing run continued in this fixture which kicked off at the very unusual time (for a home reserve game) of three o'clock on a Saturday!

We had taken a large squad to Preston on the Friday, leaving us with a reserve team which included nine juniors. Luton refused to postpone the game, although they had only two fixtures remaining after this one.

Fulham were always second best against an experienced visiting team including players who were hopeful of a place in the Littlewoods Cup Final squad. This was our fourth consecutive defeat, but we will be hoping for an improvement when we visit Oxford on Wednesday night.

*Team: Kemp; Ferney, Tuckers, Sutton, Eaton, Hoddy, Rogers, Thurlow, Greaves, Donnellan, King. Subs: Onwere, Power.*

### OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION APPEARANCES AND GOALSCORERS 1988/89

(Maximum 32)

Up to and including 1st April 1989

	Apps	Goals
Carey ANDERSON	2	—
Laurence BATTY	29	—
Terry BULLIVANT	3+3	—
Michael COLE	5	1
Gordon DAVIES	9	5
Leo DONNELLAN	25	3
Nicky EATON	5	—
Jeff ECKHARDT	2	—
Gary ELKINS	8	1
Martin FERNEY	4+3	—
Gavin FRENCH	0+1	—
Paul GERMAN	15+2	1
Colin GORDON	12	—
Shaun GORE	8	—
Steve GREAVES	25	1
Paul HAMMOND	1	—
Kevin HODDY	30	4
Jason HOWES	8+6	3
David JOHNSON	1	—
Finley KEMP	3	—
Wayne KERRINS	19	2
Jason KING	3+3	—
Richard LANGLEY	8	—
Ray LEWINGTON	15+1	2
John MARSHALL	6	—
Ron MAUGE	9	4
Udo ONWERE	0+2	—
Gary PETERS	5	—
Mark POWER	1	—
Paul RAINS	2	—
Otis ROBERTS	3+1	—
Andy ROGERS	4+2	—
Andy SAYER	13+1	9
Peter SCOTT	8	1
Justin SKINNER	7	4
David SUTTON	14+2	—
Glen THOMAS	3	—
Steve THURLOW	8	1
Mark TUCKER	8	—
Des VERTANNES	4	—
Clive WALKER	5	1
Robert WILSON	6	—
Mark WOODS	6	—

### REMAINING COMBINATION FIXTURES

April	26	Portsmouth	H
May	3	Arsenal	A
May	9	Swindon	H
May	15	Millwall	A

### OVENDEN PAPERS FOOTBALL COMBINATION

(Results to Monday, 10th April 1989)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tottenham H.	35	21	9	5	84	35	51
Luton Town	36	17	10	9	84	52	44
Arsenal	32	17	10	5	69	38	44
Wimbledon	33	19	6	8	64	33	44
Watford	31	17	9	5	78	43	43
Chelsea	31	16	8	7	61	41	40
Swindon Town	31	17	4	10	59	47	38
Millwall	30	14	7	9	61	38	35
Norwich City	33	14	7	12	59	59	35
Oxford Utd.	30	13	6	11	63	60	32
Southampton	34	13	6	15	61	65	32
Crystal Pal.	31	11	8	12	43	42	30
Ipswich Town	29	12	5	12	46	49	29
Brighton	33	7	13	13	41	67	27
West Ham Utd.	33	8	10	15	49	59	26
<b>Fulham</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>25</b>
Charlton Ath.	30	6	8	16	46	64	20
Portsmouth	28	6	4	18	26	67	16
Reading	32	4	4	24	29	88	12
Q.P.R.	30	3	5	22	25	66	11

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*Gary Elkins' forward run ends with his cross to Andy Sayer.*



*Andy Sayer puts Elkins' cross into the net for the winning goal.*



*John Marshall's header puts Fulham back into the match.*



*Glen Thomas tries an overhead kick in the penalty area.*



# **Action Replay Action**





to put the ball into the Chesterfield



John Marshall has the ball in the net and shows his delight to the crowd.



Peter Scott competes for possession.

We bounced back from the Chester debacle with a hard-earned victory over Chesterfield. It was not a spectacular game, but the three points were very welcome. Phil Wardle's photos show how we did it.



Michael Cole wins the ball against the Chesterfield defence.

# Replay Action Replay



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## CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION



*Photographs courtesy of 'The Times'*

Three minutes before the interval, a bottle was thrown towards the opposing side's goalkeeper. The incident was captured by the CCTV system and 57 seconds later police had arrested the offender. By the half-time whistle, he had been led away for questioning, charged and subsequently pleaded guilty at the court hearing.

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# Youth View

## GILLINGHAM 3 FULHAM 0

South East Counties League

With six regulars called up for reserve team action against Luton in the afternoon (goalie Finlay Kemp played in both games), we fielded six schoolboys in our squad, three of whom had not played before at this level. We also had 18-year-old Ossie Smith on loan from Watford but he had to go off with an ankle injury after only five minutes. In contrast, Gillingham had four players with first team experience and their sheer physical strength inevitably told in the end.

We played the better football in the first half and created several chances but failed to make the most of them. Central defender Mark Power and midfielder Udo Onwere were outstanding throughout and it wasn't until the final twenty minutes, when our younger lads tired that Gills scored three times to wrap up the points.

**FULHAM:** Kemp, Taggart (Lewis 70), Looker, Power, Vertannes, Morgan, Onwere, Smith (Humphreys 5), Jacquart, Howes, Blades.

## FULHAM 0 LEYTON ORIENT 0

South East Counties League

With Cambridge having beaten Norwich 2-1 earlier in the week to put them four points ahead, our lads knew that, with only two matches left, anything less than a victory would mean having to apply for re-election to the First Division again.

We had an early scare when skipper David Sutton had to clear off our line but a young debutant striker from Hampton, Fred Assimah quickly made an impression with a clever chip over the keeper which narrowly shaved the crossbar. He also laid on a chance for Udo Onwere who blasted it over the bar. The remainder of the first half was a midfield stalemate with neither side making much progress.

We began the second period on the attack and from the second of Andy Rogers corners, Brett Looker saw his header blocked. A dreadful back pass put Jason King away but he shot too quickly and the ball went high over the bar. Andy Rogers got in a hard low shot from a good cross by Nicky Eaton and although the Orient keeper couldn't hold it, he was able to smother it before anyone could get there. As we threw caution to the winds in our efforts to bring off a win, Finlay Kemp was left exposed at the back and brought off an excellent save when substitute Glenroy Thompson got right through. His shot looked goalbound but Finlay dived to turn it round the post. Des Vertannes had a snap shot saved but it was again Kemp to the rescue when Dean Jordan tried to walk the ball round him.

There could be no criticism for lack of effort but the pressure was too much for some of our lads who wanted to win so badly that they forgot the basics and didn't play up to their usual standard.

**FULHAM:** Kemp, Sutton, Looker, Tucker, Eaton, Howes (Blades 62), Onwere, Rogers, Vertannes, Assimah, King. Subs: Blades and Power.

**FULHAM  
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## SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE

(Maximum 33)

Up to and including 8th April 1989

	Apps	Goals
Fred ASSIMAH	1	—
Shaun BENT	0+2	—
Andy BLADES	18+12	2
Geoff DAY	2	—
Nicky EATON	17	—
Martin FERNEY	27+1	—
Steve FORD	6+2	—
Gavin FRENCH	3+1	—
Paul GERMAN	26	3
Jason HOWES	28	8
Gavin HUMPHREYS	0+1	—
Dan JACQUART	7+2	1
Finlay KEMP	25	—
Jason KING	29+3	5
Brett LOOKER	2	—
Gary McCANN	8	—
Michael MORGAN	1	—
Robbie McMILLAN	1+2	—
Chris NISSAN	0+1	—
Udo ONWERE	28+4	—
Mark POWER	10+8	—
Andy ROGERS	20	—
Ossie SMITH	1	—
Vaughan SPARKS	1	—
David SUTTON	30	3
Riley TAGGART	2	—
Mark TUCKER	30	—
Des VERTANNES	26+3	3
Mark WOODS	14	—
Opponents	—	1

## SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	28	18	9	1	80	24	45
Tottenham Hot.	26	21	3	2	60	18	45
Q.P.R.	28	12	8	8	56	34	32
Gillingham	26	13	5	8	51	40	31
Millwall	28	10	9	9	41	42	29
Chelsea	27	12	4	11	55	47	28
Norwich City	27	8	12	7	42	35	28
Watford	23	9	10	4	24	30	28
Charlton Athletic	26	11	3	12	47	52	25
Leyton Orient	28	9	7	12	43	51	25
Southend United	26	7	8	11	37	48	22
Ipswich Town	28	9	4	15	41	64	22
Portsmouth	25	8	4	13	31	45	20
West Ham Utd.	30	7	5	18	31	55	19
Cambridge Utd.	29	7	5	17	30	67	19
<b>Fulham</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>16</b>

## REMAINING S.E. COUNTIES FIXTURE

April 22 Ipswich Town H

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# FIRST TEAM FILE

*Chester v Fulham report continued.*

chances galore were created. Jim made two great saves from Dale but had no chance when O'Keefe put him clear for his second goal. Ronnie Mauge cleared off the line and Lightfoot blasted over when it looked easier to score. A solo lateral run by Graham brought him the goal he deserved and Dale pounced for his hat-trick while three defenders stood and watched.

The pitch was by no means unplayable as Chester proved and this was a thoroughly undisciplined performance by Fulham, in complete contrast to Preston four days earlier. Nevertheless, Chester must be given every credit for a super show. They had been under the cosh at the Cottage earlier in the season, had learnt from it and gave the 2,000 home fans a night to remember.

**CHESTER:** Stewart, Butler, Lightfoot, Hinnigan, Lane, Woodthorpe, O'Keefe, Jakub, Graham, Dale, Abel (Painter 70). Subs: Painter and Wynn.

**FULHAM:** Stannard, Mauge, Eckhardt, Rougvie, Marshall, Cole, Scott, Skinner (Wilson 52), Gordon (Thomas 52), Davies.

## LEW'S VIEW

*We have had bad defeats before, but there has usually been a reason for them. This time I can find no excuse. The team met for what might be described as a frank exchange of views on the following day and everyone had his say about what went wrong. We all felt a sense of shame and, on behalf of the team, I would like to apologise to everyone who paid to watch this dismal display.*

## FULHAM 2 v CHESTERFIELD 1

*Barclays League Division Three*

Fulham ended another topsy-turvy week on a high. After a stunning win at Preston, followed by a catastrophic defeat at Chester, sanity returned to Craven Cottage, and Fulham took another step towards Division Two. Though at times it wasn't pretty, the 2-1 win gives real hope to the push for a play-off place.

The first half of the game against Chesterfield was dull, very dull. Fulham managed only two shots on target, and Mick Leonard didn't have a save to make until the 33rd minute. Chesterfield were well organised, and their neat play, particularly from Arnott and Eley, belied their lowly League position. The half's better chances fell to Chesterfield, with Eley twice breaking through the home defence. The first time, on 18 minutes Jim Stannard spread himself well to block the winger's effort, and then on 38 minutes Eley skipped past two tackles before being dispossessed with the goal beckoning.

At the other end, Davies and Coles were well shackled by the Spireites defence. A bumpy pitch didn't help the touch players such as Walker and Skinner, but the team as a whole still seemed shell-shocked after the mid-week thrashing at Chester. The shell-shock began to wear off towards half-time as Clive Walker tested Leonard with a whipping left foot shot from near the byline, and a hook back towards goal from Peter Scott. Right on the 45 minutes Ivor chipped a ball over the defence and followed up a 50-50 ball with Leonard. The pair collided with Ivor coming off worst. He didn't re-appear for the second half, and was taken to hospital with an arm injury.

Andy Sayer took his chance excellently in the second half, but not before a scare for the Whites. After 52 minutes Eley broke through again, Stannard saved well, and pushed the ball aside for a corner. The Fulham defence didn't re-group properly, and Waller was able to flick the ball home despite Gary Elkins' efforts to keep the ball out. Unlike the performances against Gillingham and Chester, Fulham didn't cave in when the opposition scored. It took only four minutes to draw level, and the goal was of text book quality. Andy Sayer held the ball up in mid-field, and freed Clive Walker down the left just at the right time.

Clive outpaced his marker and hit a sweet cross just beyond the far post. John Marshall rose above the rest, and his sharp downward header had goal written all over it.

The winner followed just eight minutes later. Gary Elkins interchanged passes with Clive Walker before running strongly towards the area. He drew the keeper before slipping the ball along the six yards box. Andy Sayer tapped home gleefully, and will not score an easier goal all season. There was a suspicion of offside, but it was great to see Andy get on the marker for his first first team goal since November.

Fulham came close to extending the lead twice before the end. Clive Walker tore down the left and hit a cross shot which eluded everyone but slipped past the post, and Glenn Thomas saw his strong header tipped over by Leonard following a corner. Fulham's dominance of the last half hour was reflected in their five corners to none for Chesterfield.

While making hard work of the win, there were promising signs for Fulham. Ronnie Mauge looked very capable at right back, and Andy Sayer led the line with much of the vigour he showed back at the season's start. A good three points, roll on Bolton!

## LEW'S VIEW

*Following that appalling display at Chester, we had to pick ourselves up and work hard to secure three points. Chesterfield are never an easy side to beat as they stop you playing and rely on the quick break. It looked as though their methods were paying dividends when they opened the scoring, but I was very pleased with our response and with the way we scored those two very good goals. In the circumstances this was an excellent game to win.*



*Andy Sayer, second half substitute who got the winner against Chesterfield.*

# No.



# Ken Myers Calling

## RONNIE MAUGE



Making a belated return to first team duty in the splendid win was Ronnie Mauge, who showed his pleasure at playing by making some amazing sliding tackles all over Deepdale's plastic. "Well, as everybody knows, I have been in prison, and the main thing I want to do is put all that behind me. I still don't think I'm match fit yet. I tried to keep myself in shape whilst I was away but I still think I need a couple more hard games to get really fit." Ronnie had four League outings before his sojourn in Ipswich, and we saw him in a number of positions, including full-back, his current role. "I don't think full-back is my best position. Personally, I think I'm a better player in midfield, but Ray Lew and Jack Burkett both reckon I'm more effective at full-back and I will go along with them. I'm just happy to be involved and to play in the first team. I did play for England Schoolboys at right-back, but when I signed for Charlton, they tried me in midfield and even up-front. I played in several positions for the reserves when I first came here, but if the management want me to play at full-back, that's fine by me." When Ronnie was a guest of Her Majesty, Ray Lew went to visit him, and this gave him a lot of encouragement. It made him determined to succeed if he was

given a second chance. "I've learnt a lot since I was away. My attitude has changed and I am now a completely different person. I sincerely hope people will give me a chance to prove how different I am now. I really want to succeed and give something back to those who have shown faith in me, the management and the fans. This will be my way of saying thank-you to those people."

A number of players in this series have commented about the effect the crowd has had, particularly those playing on the flanks within earshot of the more vocal supporters. "I haven't had much contact with the fans in the Enclosure or on the Hammersmith End," admitted Ronnie, "but I'm sure they'll be fair. When I was away, I missed the contact with the supporters and perhaps after my experience, I will be able to handle it better than some of the younger lads."

Once he came back to the club, Ronnie did not expect to get back into the first team very quickly. "They had been playing well and getting some great results. I didn't think I would get a League game so soon, but I was thrilled to be called up for the Preston match. I really enjoyed it, and felt good after our great win. I want to hold on to my first team place, and if people are willing to give me a chance, I am sure I will do well."

There has not been a finale to a Fulham season like this one since 1982-83, and how does Ronnie see it. "We have been playing quite well of late, apart from the Chester disaster, and there is a lot of fight amongst the players. You saw that when we came back from behind against Chesterfield. The spirit running through the club is tremendous and I am confident we will be in the top six at the end of the season. I just hope I can stay involved in the promotion push. Second Division football is a real possibility next season, and I think we wouldn't have to change our style too much to do well. We have the players with the skill to cope with the Second Division, so long as we get the breaks over the next six weeks."



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# FOR THE RECORD 1988~89

Date	Opponents	Res.	Pos.	Att.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14
Aug. 27	Cardiff City	2-1	-	6,024	Stannard	Eckhardt	Elkins†	Skinner	Thomas	Langley	Saver†	Wilson†	Barnett	Cole	Walker	Hoddy	Kerns
Aug. 30	Southeast United	1-0	2	4,754	Stannard	Langley	Eckhardt	Wilson	Elkins	Thomas	Skinner	Saver	Barnett	Cole	Walker	Hoddy	Daves†(10)
Sept. 10	Mansfield Town	1-3	7	2,737	Stannard	Langley	Elkins	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver†	Cole	Walker	Hoddy†(11)	Kerns
17	Bury	1-0	3	3,754	Stannard	Langley	Elkins	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Marshall†(11)
20	Bolton Wanderers	2-3	6	4,239	Stannard	Langley	Elkins	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Marshall†(10)
24	Wigan Athletic	1-1	7	3,431	Stannard	Langley	Elkins	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Elkins
Oct. 1	Huddersfield Town	O-2	11	4,576	Stannard	Peters	Gore	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
5	Wolverhampton Wanderers	2-2	-	4,828	Stannard	Peters†	Peters†	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
8	Bristol City	5-1	7	8,160	Stannard	Peters†	Peters†	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
15	Aldershot	5-1	4	5,101	Stannard	Peters†	Peters†	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
22	Swansea City	O-2	9	4,737	Stannard	Peters†	Peters†	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
25	Northampton Town	3-2	-	4,644	Stannard	Peters†	Peters†	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
29	Notts County	1-0	4	5,514	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
Nov. 5	Blackpool	1-1	-	4,760	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
8	Reading	2-1	5	6,934	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
12	Sheffield United	O-1	7	11,087	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
26	Port Vale	O-3	8	5,097	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
Dec. 3	Bristol Rovers	O-2	9	4,461	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
17	Preston North End	2-1	8	3,868	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
26	Gillingham	1-0	7	5,871	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
31	Chesterfield	1-4	10	3,086	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
Jan. 3	Brentford	3-3	9	8,021	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
13	Chester City	4-1	6	4,196	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
17	Southeast United	O-0	6	4,844	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
21	Mansfield Town	1-1	6	4,148	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
28	Bury	1-3	8	3,582	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
Feb. 11	Huddersfield Town	2-5	10	15,621	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
18	Wolverhampton Wanderers	3-1	9	4,461	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Eckhardt	Thomas	Barnett	Skinner	Saver	Cole	Walker	Daves†	Mauge†(10)
Mar. 4	Bristol City	1-2	-	3,948	Stannard	Langley	Elkins	Skinner	Rougier	Thomas	Marshall	Scott	Wilson	Daves†	Walker	Saver	Skinner
11	Swansea City	1-0	8	4,710	Stannard	Langley	Elkins	Skinner	Rougier	Thomas	Marshall	Scott	Wilson	Daves†	Walker	Saver	Skinner
14	Blackpool	1-0	9	3,014	Stannard	Langley	Elkins	Skinner	Rougier	Thomas	Marshall	Scott	Wilson	Daves†	Walker	Saver	Skinner
18	Notts County	2-1	8	3,402	Stannard	Langley	Elkins	Skinner	Rougier	Thomas	Marshall	Scott	Wilson	Daves†	Walker	Saver	Skinner
24	Cardiff City	2-0	-	4,261	Stannard	Langley	Elkins	Skinner	Rougier	Thomas	Marshall	Scott	Wilson	Daves†	Walker	Saver	Skinner
28	Brentford	1-0	4	10,851	Stannard	Langley	Elkins	Skinner	Rougier	Thomas	Marshall	Scott	Wilson	Daves†	Walker	Saver	Skinner
Apr. 27	Gillingham	1-2	7	6,476	Baty	Langley	Elkins	Skinner	Rougier	Thomas	Marshall	Scott	Wilson	Daves†	Walker	Saver	Skinner
5	Preston North End	4-1	5	8,190	Stannard	Mauge	Gore	Skinner	Rougier	Thomas	Marshall	Scott	Wilson	Daves†	Walker	Saver	Skinner
8	Chester City	O-7	5	2,121	Stannard	Mauge	Gore	Skinner	Rougier	Thomas	Marshall	Scott	Wilson	Daves†	Walker	Saver	Skinner
15	Bolton Wanderers	2-1	5	4,252	Stannard	Mauge	Gore	Skinner	Rougier	Thomas	Marshall	Scott	Wilson	Daves†	Walker	Saver	Skinner
May 1	Aldershot	2-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Sheffield United	1-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Bristol Rovers	1-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Port Vale	1-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LITTLEWOODS CHALLENGE CUP																	
Aug. 30	Brentford (1st Leg)	2-2	-	5,489	Stannard	Langley	Eckhardt	Wilson	Elkins	Thomas	Skinner	Saver†	Barnett	Cole	Walker	Hoddy†(11)	Kerns
Sept. 6	Brentford (2nd Leg)	O-1	-	7,707	Stannard	Langley	Eckhardt	Wilson	Elkins	Thomas	Skinner	Saver	Barnett	Cole	Walker	Gore†(14)	Daves†(10)
FA CUP																	
Nov. 19	Colchester United (1st Rd)	O-1	-	4,481	Stannard	Marshall	Thomas	Wilson	Peters	Eckhardt	Barnett	Scott	Saver	Gordon	Walker	Gore†(5)	Daves†(10)
SHERPA VAN TROPHY																	
Nov. 22	Brentford (Qualifying R)	O-2	-	2,376	Baty	Marshall	Kerns	Wilson	Gore	Eckhardt	Barnett	Scott	Saver	Daves	Walker	Skinner†(4)	Elkins
Dec. 10	Gillingham (Qualifying R)	1-2	-	1,970	Baty	Marshall	Kerns	Wilson	Gore	Eckhardt	Barnett	Scott	Saver	Daves	Walker	Hoddy	Donnellan†(5)

Injured \$  
Substituted  
Sent off  
Booked



# BACKTRACK

Our record against today's visitors from Bolton is not one of the best. We have won 14 times against 19 wins by the Trotters with eight games drawn.

We have been unsuccessful on our last two trips to Burnden Park. Earlier this season we went down 3-2, with Andy Sayer and Gary Peters our scorers. The score was the same in February 1987. Kevin Hoddy with a low drive and Kenny Achampong with a lofted shot were our second half scorers, but defensive lapses meant that these strikes were not enough.

Bolton's last visit to Craven Cottage was on a Tuesday evening in September 1986. Less than 2,500 fans saw Roddy Brathwaite start his first full game in a Fulham shirt. In an exciting match, with both sides playing attacking football, we put together our first victory of the season. Dean Coney scored two and Kenny Achampong and Peter Scott from the spot sealed a 4-2 triumph.

Coney had also been on the mark four years earlier, on the Trotters' last visit. His couple plus a Ray Houghton goal and a Ray Lewington penalty gave us a 4-0 victory, our best ever result against Bolton. At Burnden Park we completed a double thanks to Sean O'Driscoll's single goal.

Bolton's last victory at the Cottage was in January 1977. Over 12,000 saw goalkeeper Perry Digweed make his debut in the New Year Bank Holiday fixture. Bolton were 2-0 winners. After only 15 appearances in four-and-a-half years at the Cottage, Digweed moved to Brighton for a £150,000 fee in January 1981.

Another debutant against Bolton was Stephen Camp in the 1975-76 season, coming on as a substitute for Les Strong. Alan Slough scored but we went down 2-1.

Bolton also triumphed at the Cottage in August 1968, when we suffered the first of eleven home defeats that season. Bolton's goals in a 2-0 victory came from schemer Freddie Hill two minutes before the interval and centre-half John Hulme two minutes from the end.

During our First Division spell in the sixties we unbeaten in five home games against the Trotters. The best result was a home win by 3-1 in September 1983, with Maurice Cook, Johnny Haynes and Jim Langley the scorers. At Burnden Park the best performance was a 3-0 victory in October 1960, Graham Leggat getting a hat-trick.

Amateur centre-forward Bobby Brown made his debut in the October 1960 fixture. In February that year, Alan Jones made his debut against Bolton at the Cottage and scored after 35 seconds with his first kick of the game. Since he was playing at centre-forward, presumably either Alf Stokes or Johnny Haynes must have kicked off! Jones scored three times in his seven game Fulham career. Another name, now forgotten, on the scoresheet against Bolton in those years, was left-winger Micky Johnson who scored in the 2-2 draw at the Cottage in March 1961.

We also played Wanderers three times at Craven Cottage during our First Division spell a decade earlier. Our best result was in November 1949, when Beddy Jezzard, Bob Thomas and Arthur Rowley gave us a 3-0 victory. We lost at home in both of the next two seasons.

The most recent players associated with both Fulham and Bolton are Dave Clement and Geoff Banton. Clement was 14 years with QPR, playing over 400 games and winning five England caps. In 1979 he moved to Bolton and joined Fulham in October 1980. After 19 first team appearances he moved to Wimbledon a year later. Tragically, he committed suicide after breaking a leg playing for the Dons.

Geoff Banton started his footballing career at Burnden Park, but never made the grade. His first League appear-

ances were at Plymouth Argyle, and then in 1978 he moved to Fulham. His best season at Fulham was 1979-80, when he made 17 appearances in the team that was relegated at the end of the season.

Two well-known names in the Bolton sides that visited in the 1960s were veteran goalkeeper Eddie Hopkinson and left winger Gordon Taylor, now giving sterling service to the game through the PFA.



*Dean Coney heads his second goal in our 4-0 win over Bolton in September 1982.*



*Dean Coney scores his first in the victory over Wanderers in September 1982.*

## Summary of League encounters

Home						Away					
W	D	L	F	A		W	D	L	F	A	
10	3	7	33	24		4	5	12	24	33	

**Best home performance:** 4-0 in 1982-83

**Worst home performance:** 0-2 in 1933-34, 1968-69 and 1976-77

**Best Away performance:** 3-0 in 1960-61

**Worst away performance:** 0-4 in 1934-35

**Highest home attendance:** 38,000 in 1951-52

**Lowest home attendance:** 2,434 in 1986-87



# IN FOCUS BOLTON

## WANDERING TO WEMBLEY

A cracking goal by Julian Darby gave Bolton a one-nil advantage over Blackpool in Tuesday night's Sherpa Van Trophy Northern Final First Leg, but Wanderers were relieved that their Lancashire neighbours sent a first-half penalty well wide of the target.

Bolton will be hoping that next Tuesday's second leg will see them through to their second Wembley final in four seasons. Their 1986 appearance resulted in a three-nil defeat against Bristol City, but the club made £120,000.

This season's league programme saw Bolton reach third place in October, but a decline set in, and by March the side was hovering just above the relegation area in nineteenth position, having won just five matches out of twenty-three played during the slide.

Currently, however, Bolton are unbeaten for eight matches, with only two goals conceded during this run, until last Saturday's meeting with Notts County, who led three-nil at half-time, only for Wanderers to fight back in the second half and force a draw. Then came Tuesday's Sherpa Van victory.

**RESULTS THIS SEASON** (Bolton score shown first).

Home: Cardiff 4-0, Bristol Rovers 1-1, Fulham 3-2, Sheffield United 2-0, Blackpool 2-2, Wolves 1-2, Chesterfield 5-0, Bury 2-4, Northampton 2-1, Chester 0-1, Mansfield 0-0, Gillingham 2-1, Reading 1-1, Swansea 1-0, Bristol City 2-0, Southend 0-0, Preston 1-0, Notts County 3-3.

Away: Southend 0-2, Reading 1-1, Aldershot 3-0, Swansea 0-1, Port Vale 1-2, Wigan 1-1, Bristol City 1-1, Huddersfield 1-0, Brentford 0-3, Preston 1-3, Notts County 0-2, Cardiff 0-1, Bristol Rovers 0-3, Sheffield United 0-4, Blackpool 0-2, Wolves 0-1, Chesterfield 1-1, Mansfield 1-1, Chester 0-0, Gillingham 1-0.

F.A. Cup: Chesterfield (home) 0-0, Chesterfield (away) 3-2, Port Vale (home) 1-2.

Littlewoods Cup: Chester (home) 1-0, Chester (away) 1-3.

Sherpa Van Trophy: Preston (home 1-0, Bury (away) 0-1, Preston (away) 1-0, Wrexham (home) 3-1 aet, Crewe (away) 2-1 aet, Blackpool (home) 1-0.

League Scorers to date: Thompson 9 (3 pens), Morgan 8, Stevens 5, Cowdrill 4, Brookman 4, Savage 4, Thomas 4, Brown 4, Henshaw 2.

**THE PLAYERS** This season's appearances in brackets (Maximum: 38)

**DAVID FELGATE** Goalkeeper. Birthplace: Blaenau Ffestiniog. Age: 29. Previous clubs: Blaenau Ffestiniog, Bolton, Rochdale (loan), Bradford City (loan), Crewe (loan), Lincoln, Cardiff (loan), Grimsby, Rotherham (loan). League appearances: 391 (38). Appearances v Fulham: 6.

Last season's Player of the Year, David returned to Bolton in February 1987 and made his debut against Fulham at Burnden Park. He won a Welsh Cap against Rumania in 1984.

**PHIL BROWN** Defender. Birthplace: South Shields. Age: 29. Previous Clubs: Hartlepool, Halifax. League Appearances: 390 (38) Appearances v Fulham: 1.

After spending nine seasons in Division Four, Phil stepped up a grade in the last close season when he signed for Bolton as replacement for Derek Scott. He is the club captain.

**BARRY COWDRILL** Defender. Birthplace: Birmingham. Age: 32. Previous Clubs: Sutton Coldfield, West Brom, Rotherham (loan). League Appearances: 169 (36). Appearances v Fulham: 1.

Barry was given a free transfer in the summer after nine years at West Brom. He was ever-present in the Bolton side from October until missing the last two League matches with a cut lip.

**BOB SAVAGE** Midfield. Birthplace: Liverpool. Age: 29. Previous Clubs: Liverpool, Wrexham (loan), Stoke, Bour-

nemouth, Bradford City. League Appearances: 199 (33). Appearances v Fulham: 1.

Bob joined the club in September 1987. He scored against us at Burnden Park earlier this season, and makes his 200th League appearance today.

**DEAN CROMBIE** Defender. Birthplace: Lincoln. Age: 31. Previous Clubs: Ruston, Lincoln, Grimsby, Reading (loan). League Appearances: 403 (22). Appearances v Fulham: 7.

After nine years at Grimsby, Dean moved to Burnden Park in the 1987 close season. His recent return to the side has coincided with Bolton's unbeaten run.

**MARK WINSTANLEY** Defender. Birthplace: St. Helens. Age: 21. League Appearances: 61 (37). Appearances v Fulham: 1.

A former YTS boy at Bolton, Mark made his League debut in March 1987 and until missing last Saturday's match through suspension, he was ever-present in the side for almost a year.

**STUART STORER** Forward. Birthplace: Harborough. Age: 22. Previous Clubs: Mansfield, Birmingham (loan), Everton, Wigan (loan). League Appearances: 53 (17). Appearances v Fulham: 1.

After originally signing on loan on Christmas Eve 1987, Stuart made an immediate impact and joined Bolton permanently, but has since been in and out of the team.

**STEVE THOMPSON** Midfield. Birthplace: Oldham. Age: 24. League Appear-

ances: 235 (35). Appearances v Fulham: 3.

Steve has been a regular in the Bolton side since playing in an 8-1 win over Walsall in 1983. He has scored one goal in each of his appearances against Fulham.

**JOHN THOMAS** Forward. Birthplace: Wednesbury. Age: 30. Previous Clubs: Everton, Tranmere (loan), Halifax (loan), Bolton, Chester, Lincoln, Preston. League Appearances: 293 (22). Appearances v Fulham: 1.

John returned to Bolton in the 1987 close season for a £30,000 fee and scored 22 League goals during the promotion campaign, but missed three months of this season with a knee injury.

**JEFF CHANDLER** Forward. Birthplace: Hammersmith. Age: 29. Previous Clubs: Blackpool, Leeds, Bolton, Derby, Mansfield (loan). League Appearances: 289 (14). Appearances v Fulham: 3.

Like many people who were born in Hammersmith, Jeff is eligible for Eire, and he won two caps in 1980. He rejoined Bolton for £38,000 in 1987. Jeff recently suffered from a calf strain.

**JULIAN DARBY** Midfield. Birthplace: Bolton. Age: 20. League Appearances: 101 (36). Appearances v Fulham: 2.

Julian is a former England Schoolboy International who made his League debut in 1986 and soon established himself in the side. Ever-present this season apart from a two-match suspension.

**NICK BROOKMAN** Midfield. Birthplace: Manchester. Age: 20. League Appearances: 55 (25).



# BOLTON WANDERERS



Back Row (left to right): Ian Callaghan, Gary Henshaw, Paul Hughes, David Felgate, Julian Darby, Ian Stevens, Chris O'Brien. Middle Row: Phil Neal (Manager), Steve Carroll (Youth Coach), Nicky Brookman, Gary Brown, Stuart Storer, Trevor Morgan, Dave McKearnly, Bob Savage, Jeff Chandler, Mick Brown (Coach), Phil Stock (Physio). Front Row: John Thomas, Steve Elliott (no longer with club), Phil Brown, Mark Came (no longer with club), Mark Winstanley, Dean Crombie, Barry Cowdrill, Steve Thompson.

This attacking midfield player has been a valuable member of the first team squad since making his debut in April 1987, without holding down a regular place in the side.

**PHIL NEAL Defender.** Birthplace: Irchester. Age: 38. Previous Clubs: Northampton, Liverpool. League Appearances: 704 (7). Appearances v Fulham: 2.

Neal won fifty England caps during his time at Anfield, before moving to Bolton as player-manager in December 1985. He returned to the side against Gillingham eleven days ago.

**IAN STEVENS Forward.** Birthplace: Malta. Age: 22. Previous Clubs: Preston, Stockport, Lancaster. League Appearances: 50 (20). Appearances v Fulham: 1.

Ian made his Bolton debut in March 1987, but made only seventeen first team appearances for the club until given an extended run in the side this season.

## BURNDEN PARK

In the same manner as Brentford and some other clubs, Bolton have reduced their debts by allowing development of

part of their ground. The open Railway End once resembled the North end of Stamford Bridge, in that it was a large, curved terrace, with the away fans walking along the back to reach their section. But now a food and furnishing store and a motor sales shop stand where the "home" section of the Railway End stood previously.

Visiting supporters are now accommodated in a section of the Burnden Stand, most notable for the vast tunnel leading to the refreshment and toilet area behind, which is reminiscent of a players tunnel. The left side of this terrace area is now the main area for Bolton's most vocal supporters. At the back of the stand are 2,640 seats, which are also divided into home and away sections.

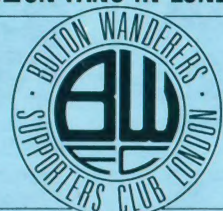
Behind the goal at the covered Great Lever End was once the "home end", but it is now seated, while seats for Bolton members can be found in the Manchester Road Stand, which also includes a members' terrace enclosure. There is a large car park behind this stand, with a smaller one behind the Railway End, and a sports hall and training pitch are situated beyond the Burnden Stand.

The Burnden Park capacity is 33,000, with seating for 11,000.

## CROWD COUNT

Season	Division	Average Gate
1983/84	Three	5,890
1984/85	Three	4,951
1985/86	Three	4,847
1986/87	Three	4,851
1987/88	Four	5,017

## BOLTON FANS IN LONDON



## FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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6 Natasha Williams 7 M. Nejang



Eltham Glass



1 2 Ian Cranna



DOUG ROUVIE



# ENDPIECE

## "SUICIDE BATTALION"

### ROBIN CROSS REFLECTS ON B MOVIES AND FULHAM

Although the marriage of cinema and football has not been a particularly successful one, in their own small but significant way two Fulham supporters have made their names in the silver screen. The first is Brian Davies, a programme contributor last year, and BBC 2 Movie Buff of the Year, and the second we profile today, Robin Cross an acknowledged authority on B movies.

As you would expect from a Fulham supporter, Robin's background is nothing if not eccentric. He was educated at Bradfield College where he recalls his French teacher and soccer coach was Peter Jones, the radio commentator and sports quiz master and another contemporary, Graham Roope, the Surrey and England cricketer who was so talented a goalkeeper that many First Division teams showed interest. After leaving Bradfield, of all things and it is somewhat hard to imagine considering his present frame, Robin became a go-go dancer in a Swedish nightclub but then returned to relative normality by pursuing his studies at Oxford. It was there during weekends to London that he first came to watch and support Fulham. He admits to a then divided loyalty between Fulham and the other team in Fulham but his particular idol was Rodney Marsh. Did Rodney's trickery and sense of entertainment spawn his love of the cinema? "That was already there" smiles Robin "but Fulham was very much a part of the sixties pop culture of the Kings Road which did express itself in many films too."

After a career as a publishing editor working for Phoebus, Hamlyn and MacDonalds, as he put it, "I got fed up being fired or locked out by Maxwell so I decided to go it alone," and that he has done most successfully. He is now the author of some twenty four books mainly on films.

"I wrote 'Big Book of B Movies or How Low Was my Budget' whilst locked out by MacDonalds and I followed this with 'History and Science Fiction Films' 'Two Thousand Movies: 1940's', 'Two Thousand Movies: 1950's', 'Big Book of British Films' and many others." He has also co-operated on a book on wartime Britain with Vera Lynn ('We'll Meet Again') and a best seller ('V.E. Day') reflecting his third love... The Second World War. I asked Robin why he thought there had been such a weak tradition in this country of football if not sports movies. He rightly chided me for failing to recall 'Th Arsenal Stadium Mystery' a film we, in fact, had seen together and a charming black and white movie of its day featuring Leslie Banks and the memorable line "Attack? That's not the Arsenal way." "But really, I suppose," he went on, "it is impossible to suspend disbelief when so many actors cannot possibly be authentic sportsmen." We had a good laugh mulling over some of the worst examples. Sylvester Stallone in "Escape to Victory" needing five hundred takes to save a penalty, a film in which my chess playing pal Ossie Ardiles played Carlos Rey a french legionnaire in a notable piece of miscasting and Michael Caine, midriff perhaps owing a bit more to some good luncheons than to a dedicated regime of training, strolled around the back four. "Wasn't that film made by John Huston, the distinguished director?" "Indeed it was" replied Robin "it was one of his films when his remark to Robert Mitchum 'If they want it bad, we will make it bad. It will cost some more but we will do it,' seems very appropriate. I recalled another film when Charles Aznavour played a long distance runner but we could not remember the title.

Robin rightly said that there had been a number of very good

sporting films made in this country but these he regarded as the exceptions to prove the rule. He thought the best of the genre was 'The Sporting Life' with Rachel Roberts and Richard Harris which is a striking evocation of rugby league in a Northern town. He liked 'the Final Test' with Jack Warner but perhaps controversially considered 'Chariots of Fire' somewhat glossy. However, he agreed with me that the Americans who have a huge tradition of sporting films most notably in boxing even recently in minor league baseball with a successful film called 'Bull Durham' starring Kevin Costner have made a much more successful attempt at this type of film.

The victory over Chesterfield, the summery sunset over the Thames and the hospitality of the Directors Guest Room had now fuelled Robin's sense of cinema and of Fulham. "Come to think of it, there is quite a comparison between Fulham and a B movie studio. Everything has to be done on a shoestring but with its own special charm and individualism. Just like Fulham have bred many great youngsters and ageing stars returned to Craven Cottage to play out their careers, the B movie studio will equally discover a young talent like Robert Mitchum or many an actor has played out his career at a B movie studio, Ronald Reagan for example." But what would be a suitable title for the Fulham film? "How about the 1958 film 'The Suicide Battalion'," and who is your favourite Fulham matinee idol? I asked recalling that Paul Went had once in a programme questionnaire given his favourite actor as Peter Mellor. "Roger Brown... sturdy of heart and thigh. I can see now his massive oak like frame rising above Lincoln's defence to score. Roger was truly 'the Indestructable Man' (a film starring Lon Chaney junior featured in the cover of 'The Worst Movie Posters of All Time') and some of his battles with centre forwards would make 'King Kong versus Godzilla' pale by comparison.

In an earlier article, I featured a TV producer called Robin Bextor who wants to make a video on Fulham. We will not call it 'The Suicide Battalion' but we know where to go for the screen play...

DAVID ROODYN



One of the many movie books written by Fulham fan, Robin Cross.



# TEAM CHECK

## Fulham

Colours: White and Black

## Bolton

Colours: Red and White

JIM STANNARD

1

DAVE FELGATE

RONNIE MAUGE

2

PHIL BROWN

GLEN THOMAS

3

PHIL NEAL

JUSTIN SKINNER

4

ROBBY SAVAGE

DOUG ROUGVIE

5

JULIAN DARBY

JEFF ECKHARDT

6

DEAN CROMBIE

JOHN MARSHALL

7

JEFF CHANDLER

PETER SCOTT

8

STEVE THOMPSON

MICHAEL COLE

9

JOHN THOMAS

GORDON DAVIES

10

IAN STEVENS

CLIVE WALKER

11

NICKY BROOKMAN

12

14

REFEREE: P. W. VANES

LINESMEN:

D. J. ELEY (Red Trim)

J. F. THOMPSON (Yellow Trim)

